

**PALM VALLEY CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
September 14, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Palm Valley met in a Special Meeting on the 14th day of September 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at 1313 N. Stuart Place Road, Palm Valley, Texas. Council members attended in person. (ZOOM videoconferencing was available for the public).

Council members present (in person)

Mayor Pro Tem Eric Hoff
Councilman Gilberto Lucio
Councilwoman Lisa Taylor
Councilwoman Annette Baker
Councilman Jerry Wade

(VIA ZOOM)

City Attorney Jason Mann

Staff present (in person):

Sylvia R. Trevino, City Secretary
Jose Rivera, Support Services Aid
A.R. Garcia, Chief of Police
Rosendo Flores, Waterworks Supervisor

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Hoff.
2. **INVOCATION**- Recited by Mayor Pro Tem Hoff.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by Mayor Pro Tem Hoff.
4. **PRESENTATION OF STATUS REPORT FOR THE COLLECTION OF OUTSTANDING COURT FINES**

Monica Salinas, representing Linebarger Goggan Balir & Sampson, LLC, briefed the Council on the latest status report on Municipal Court Collections.

Ms. Salinas reported on the collection disposition summary for July 2022 with a resolved amount of \$2,019 as of July. As for the collection disposition summary, contract to date she reported that 277 citations were resolved for \$76,025, a dollar resolution rate of 14.9%.

Ms. Salinas stated that the collection activity as of July 2022 produced 16 letters that were mailed out, 2 address/telephone updates and outbound phone activity was 47 phone calls.

Additional reports by Ms. Salinas were on delinquent court fees and fines annual collections for the last six years and monthly collections for the last 18 months. (At this time, Mayor Pro Tem Hoff welcomed Kathy Cherry, newly appointed City Secretary, to the Council meeting who was present via ZOOM).

5. PRESENTATION BY JIM BIRSCHBACH WITH FRONTIER DIRECT CARE

Mr. Birschbach was present to explain the savings that Frontier Direct Care can make to save the City of Palm Valley on health benefit costs while continuing to deliver excellent medical care. Frontier Direct Care can help redesign the City's current health program without eliminating the current provider, Blue Cross Blue Shield. The employees would still be protected for any concerns like cancer, heart and other major medical issues. As a major example, Mr. Birschbach stated that Frontier Direct Care will be saving the City of McAllen a projected \$2.4 million on their previous \$14.0 million expenditure for employee and family health coverage. The savings is designed to save the employer which is the City of Palm Valley. He added that the Cities of Harlingen, San Benito, Pharr, Mercedes, Raymondville and Brownsville are currently considering this cost saving investment at the present.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

City Secretary Sylvia Trevino read into the record a statement that was submitted by Ms. Jeannette Edgely regarding signage at Los Amigos townhomes. Her letter is attached as a part of these minutes.

7. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL – SPECIAL MEETING OF AUGUST 31, 2022 AND SPECIAL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

Councilwoman Taylor just asked for clarification on the number of radios to be purchased for the Police Department. Chief Garcia explained that he will be purchasing five radios in the new fiscal year with two more radios to follow in the following fiscal year.

Councilwoman Taylor pointed out a correction to Page 5 changing the word 'identity' to 'entity' in the third paragraph and changing Councilwoman Taylor to Councilman Wade, second paragraph on Item No. 15.

Councilman Wade made a motion to approve both sets of minutes with the noted corrections.

Councilwoman Baker seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Hoff took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

8. PUBLIC HEARING HELD TO HEAR COMMENTS FOR OR AGAINST THE PROPOSED TAX RATE OF \$0.515463/\$100 VALUATION

Mayor Pro Tem Hoff declared the public hearing open and stated that the tax rate remains the same as last year.

There being no comments from the audience, Mayor Pro Tem Hoff declared the public hearing closed.

9. ORDINANCE ADOPTED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED TAX RATE OF \$0.515463/\$100 VALUATION

Councilman Lucio commented that there was only a slight increase of 1.8% due to an increase in property valuations.

Councilman Lucio made a motion that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 0.515463 which is effectively a 1.8% increase in the tax rate.

Councilman Wade seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Hoff took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

10. PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR COMMENTS FOR OR AGAINST THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF PALM VALLEY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-23

Mayor Pro Tem Hoff declared the public hearing open.

There being no comments, Mayor Pro Tem Hoff declared the public hearing closed.

11. ORDINANCE ADOPTED ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF PALM VALLEY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-23

Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to adopt the ordinance.

Councilman Lucio seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Hoff took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

12. DISCUSSION TABLED REGARDING A REQUEST TO REVIEW AND RULE BY THE CITY COUNCIL REGARDING THE ORDINANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR SETBACK DISTANCE ON SOLID STRUCTURES ON PROPERTIES THAT ARE ADJACENT AND JOINED TO THE PROPERTY OF HARLINGEN COUNTRY CLUB BETWEEN TWO RESIDENCES. (REQUEST BY DON FRANKLIN)

Councilwoman Baker made a motion to table this item due to the absence of Mr. Franklin.

Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Hoff took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

13. **ORDINANCE TABLED TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REGULATION OF RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION, DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING SERVICES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS; PROVIDING FOR THE REGULATION OF COMMERCIAL OR RESIDENTIAL ROLL-OFF SERVICES AND FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SAME SUBJECT.**

Councilman Wade made a motion to table this ordinance. Jason Mann stated that he had not yet reviewed the ordinance.

Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Hoff took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

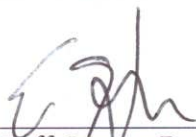
14. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
- A. Police Monthly Report – August 2022**
 - B. Municipal Court Report – August 2022**
 - C. Monthly Investment Report – August 2022**
 - D. Monthly Financial Report – August 2022**
 - E. Monthly Check Listing – August 2022**
 - F. Council/staff liaison reports**

Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Councilman Wade seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Hoff took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m. upon a motion by Councilwoman Baker and a second by Councilwoman Taylor.



Eric Hoff, Mayor Pro Tem

Attest:



Sylvia R. Trevino, City Secretary